

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended once) A method for removing a layer of an oil contaminant from the surface of an aqueous solution, comprising:
providing
a solution contaminated by oil as a result of an industrial activity, and
a surface skimmer which can be manually controlled from a remote location; and
manually controlling the surface skimmer to remove a layer of oil by the skimmer,
wherein the skimmer operates by means of negative pressure.
2. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the industrial activity ~~comprises is selected from the group consisting of parts cleaning and washing, cutting and grinding, die casting, metal plating, heat treating, surface finishing, pressure washing, steam cleaning, cooling, lubricating, cleaning, and food processing.~~
3. A method according to Claim 1, where the solution is enclosed in a tank at a location of the industrial activity.
4. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the oil contaminant comprises ~~hydraulic oils, surface finishing oils, quench oils, way oils, cutting, grinding and hobbing oils, and oils derived from food sources~~ .
5. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising separating the aqueous solution from the oil contaminant removed from the solution surface.
6. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising separating the aqueous solution from the oil contaminant removed from the solution surface, wherein the

industrial activity comprises is selected from the group consisting of parts cleaning and washing, cutting and grinding, die casting, metal plating, heat treating, surface finishing, pressure washing, steam cleaning, cooling, lubricating, cleaning, and food processing, wherein the solution is enclosed in a tank at a location of the industrial activity, and wherein the oil contaminant comprises hydraulic oils, surface finishing oils, quench oils, way oils, cutting, grinding and hobbing oils, and oils derived from food sources.

7-15 (Canceled)

16. (Previously added) A method for removing a layer of an oil contaminant from the surface of an aqueous solution, comprising:

providing

a solution contaminated by oil as a result of an industrial activity, and
a surface skimmer which does not utilize water ballasts and which can be manually controlled from a remote location; and
manually controlling the surface skimmer to remove a layer of oil by the skimmer.

17. (Previously added; currently amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the industrial activity comprises is selected from the group consisting of parts cleaning and washing, cutting and grinding, die casting, metal plating, heat treating, surface finishing, pressure washing, steam cleaning, cooling, lubricating, cleaning, and food processing.

18. (Previously added) A method according to Claim 16, where the solution is enclosed in a tank at a location of the industrial activity.

19. (Previously added; currently amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the oil contaminant comprises hydraulic oils, surface finishing oils, quench oils, way oils, cutting, grinding and hobbing oils, and oils derived from food sources.

20. (Previously added) A method according to Claim 16, further comprising separating the aqueous solution from the oil contaminant removed from the solution surface.

21. (Previously added; currently amended) A method according to Claim 16, further comprising separating the aqueous solution from the oil contaminant removed from the solution surface, wherein the industrial activity comprises is selected from the group consisting of parts cleaning and washing, ~~cutting and grinding, die casting, metal plating, heat treating, surface finishing, pressure washing, steam cleaning, cooling, lubricating, cleaning, and food processing~~, wherein the solution is enclosed in a tank at a location of the industrial activity, and wherein the oil contaminant comprises ~~hydraulic oils, surface finishing oils, quench oils, way oils, cutting, grinding and hobbing oils, and oils derived from food sources~~.

22. (Previously added) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the skimmer does not utilize water ballasts.

23. (Previously added; currently amended) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the industrial activity comprises is selected from the group consisting of parts cleaning and washing, ~~cutting and grinding, die casting, metal plating, heat treating, surface finishing, pressure washing, steam cleaning, cooling, lubricating, cleaning, and food processing~~.

24. (Previously added; currently amended) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the oil contaminant comprises ~~hydraulic oils, surface finishing oils, quench oils, way oils, cutting, grinding and hobbing oils, and oils derived from food sources~~.

25. (Previously added) A method according to Claim 22, further comprising separating the aqueous solution from the oil contaminant removed from the solution surface.

26. (Previously added; currently amended) A method according to Claim 22, further comprising separating the aqueous solution from the oil contaminant removed from the solution surface, wherein the industrial activity comprises is selected from the group consisting of parts cleaning and washing, ~~cutting and grinding, die casting, metal plating, heat treating, surface finishing, pressure washing, steam cleaning, cooling, lubricating, cleaning, and food processing~~, wherein the solution is enclosed in a tank at a location of the industrial activity, and wherein the

oil contaminant comprises hydraulic oils, surface finishing oils, quench oils, way oils, cutting, grinding and hobbing oils, and oils derived from food sources.

27. (Previously added) A method for removing a layer of an oil contaminant from the surface of an aqueous solution, comprising:

providing

a solution contaminated by oil as a result of an industrial activity, and

a surface skimmer which can be manually controlled from a remote location, and

manually controlling the surface skimmer to remove a layer of oil by the skimmer,

wherein the skimmer comprises a hollow tube with two ends and two openings,

wherein a first opening is a skimmer inlet, where the inlet is an opening cut horizontally along the tube, and close to a first end which is closed,

and wherein a second opening is a skimmer outlet, and is a second end which is open and which can be connected to the conduit.

28. (Previously added) The method of Claim 27, wherein the skimmer operates by means of negative pressure.

29. (Previously added) A method for removing a layer of an oil contaminant from the surface of an aqueous solution, comprising:

providing

a solution contaminated by oil as a result of an industrial activity, and

a surface skimmer which can be manually controlled from a remote location, and

manually controlling the surface skimmer to remove a layer of oil by the skimmer,

wherein the skimmer comprises

a hollow tube with two ends and two openings,

where a first end of the tube is partially closed and comprises an inlet, where the inlet extends along the tube from the partially closed first end,

and where a second end of the tube is open and comprises an outlet,

and further where the tube is angled between the first and the second end.

30. (Previously added) The method of Claim 29, wherein the skimmer operates by means of negative pressure.

31. (Previously added; Canceled)

32. (Previously added) A method for removing a layer of an oil contaminant from the surface of an aqueous solution, comprising:

providing

a solution contaminated by oil as a result of an industrial activity, and

a surface skimmer which can be manually controlled from a remote location; and manually controlling the surface skimmer to remove a layer of oil by the skimmer,

wherein a source oil of the oil contaminant is a mixture of at least one oil and at least one additive and is manufactured or blended for an industrial activity.